

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

*Colonial Coin Collectors
Club*



COUNTERMARKED WOOD'S HIBERNIA HALFPENNY

Summer 2004

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I enjoyed seeing many of you at our summer convention in Pittsburgh at ANA. New C4 officers were installed. I'd like to thank the outgoing officers, Angel Pietri, Jim Rosen, and Mary Sauvain, for their years of service. Angel has worn many hats over the years: President, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and others. We welcome Roger Moore as our new Treasurer, replacing Angel. Jim Rosen has served as our National VP, focusing on new publications. Although continuing his work with C4 publications, Jim has stepped down from the VP Position, which will be filled by David Palmer. As National VP, David will assume the duties of President in my absence and play an active role in C4. Taking David's place as Regional VP is David Menchell, a great guy with a passion for colonial numismatics. And lastly, Tim Martin will be taking on the Regional VP duties that Mary Sauvain has had for a long time. Mary has been an officer much longer than I've been active in C4. Her dedication to our hobby is inspirational. Thanks Mary! All other officer positions remain the same.

With all officers on our ballot running unopposed this election, one might think it difficult to get members to run for office. This is not the case. I prefer to look at running unopposed as a sign that the membership is happy with its leadership and the direction of C4. I thank you all for your confidence in us.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is ordering information for the latest C4 publication. Bob Vlack's book, "An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas", has arrived from the publisher; publication was limited to 500 copies, with C4 handling the distribution. I've thought about obtaining some French coins that circulated in Colonial America, but didn't know what to pursue. Bob's book finally gives us a reference from which to work. Great job Bob!

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There has been much activity in the hobby lately -- ongoing Stack's sales of the John Ford Collection, the George Kolbe Sale of the first half of the John Ford Library, the Stack's Family Coinage of the Americas Conference in NYC, the move of the ANS to Fulton Street in lower Manhattan, and the establishment of CNLF online study groups are just some of the highlights of the past months. The hobby is strong and thriving!

During the ANA Convention, our annual meeting was held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. In addition to installing the officers, we discussed the format of the C4 Newsletter, with an eye toward giving the membership a product that is most useful -- look for some changes in the future. We also voted to change the official C4 Annual Business meeting from the venue of the ANA National Convention to that of the National C4 Convention; however, we will continue to have a C4 membership meeting at the Summer ANA. The original reason for holding our annual meeting at the ANA Convention was simply that we had no annual C4 Convention at the time our bylaws were written.

It is with great sadness that I announce the death of Rob Retz, a longtime member. Please take a moment to read his obituary. His wit and passion will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Work has begun on our C4 Convention. We have the tables and rooms reserved, auction lots are being consigned, educational events are being planned, and exhibits are being organized. I can't wait. The 2004 Convention is our 10th Convention! My how time flies (FUGIO)! It only seems like a couple years ago that John Griffee consigned his NJ Collection to the First Convention Auction. M&G has treated us well and given a quality catalog every year for these past 10 years. Start making your hotel reservations now. The dates are November 11 thru 14.

The last topic I'd like to share is accessibility of C4 Officers in general and your president specifically. I know all of your officers

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personally and I'm sure I can speak on their behalf also when I say we are all just collectors at heart, having fun with the hobby and volunteering our time and skills. We are all available to you. If you see us at a convention, please step up and introduce yourself. Say howdy. If I can be of help in any way, contact me. If I don't know the answer, I probably know who does. And, if you just want to sit down and talk coins, I'm there! Until Dave Bowers was our featured speaker at the last convention, I had never spoken to him in person. I always wanted to but never wanted to "bother" him. After getting to know him, he's the type of collector that is very approachable. Step forward and meet your C4 Officers. I hope to meet more new collectors this year than ever before.

Have Fun!

Ray Williams



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (AND GLEANINGS FROM THE INTERNET)

Dan Freidus wrote: My nomination for the official song of C4: "Squire Wood's Lamentation on the Refusal of His Halfpence". It's by my favorite blind, itinerant, Irish harpist; Turlough O'Carolan (Toirdhealbhach Ó Cearbhalláin if you prefer Gaelic). I've included a link that you can use to listen to this music:

<http://www.sosyourmom.com/occ/Midi-111-end/213-SquireWoodsLament.mid>

The MIDI file is pretty lousy but gives you some sense of the tune if you don't read music. I listened to some others on the site that I know well and they weren't nearly as good as any of his tunes played on regular instruments.



Colonial Coins at Colonial Williamsburg

(Erik Goldstein, Curator of Numismatics)

While many institutions can boast of a great assemblage of numismatic material, Colonial Williamsburg takes it much, much further. As the nation's largest outdoor museum, our historic area is composed of some 500 reconstructed or restored buildings, of which 88 date from the 18th Century! In addition to a collection that can be described as a national treasure, the numismatist can study our archaeological material, research the Colonial Era in the Rockefeller Library, and *experience* what life was like in 18th Century Virginia. What better way to appreciate and understand the coins, medals & paper money of the time than to put them into a living context!

Through the generosity and vision of Joseph and Ruth Lasser, Colonial Williamsburg is striving to become prominent as a center for the study of 17th and 18th century numismatics. In addition to the usual coins associated with the time period, the collection focuses on trade coinage, the foreign coins that circulated here, Colonial & Continental paper money, medals, Washingtonia and related paraphernalia such as documents, coin scales and coin weights.

Unfortunately, space won't permit an all-inclusive discussion of our holdings; However, I can give you a brief listing of the material available for study at Colonial Williamsburg, beginning with the coinage of early America;

- 5 *Sommer Islands pieces*, including a high grade 2 pence, a 6 pence & a shilling (12 pence).
- 91 pieces of *Massachusetts silver* by Noe number, including a superb example of a "NE" shilling, 3 Willow Tree pieces, 39 Oak Tree issues and 48 Pine Tree issues, including many die-state variations and contemporarily cut

pieces. As the only extensively issued pre-Revolutionary American-made coinage, it is the only section of the collection assembled by die variety, with many examples of the highest rarity & condition, and many with impressive provenance.

- *A complete denominational set of 1659 Maryland Silver*, including the “Lord Baltimore” 4 pence, 6 pence & shilling.
- *c.1670 “New Yorke in America” token* formerly in the collection of Johns Hopkins University
- *1694 “Carolina” Elephant token*
- *Two 1737 Higley coppers*, one “three hammers”, one “broad axe”
- *The Dr. Philip Nelson collection of 1760 Voce Populi halfpennies and farthings*
- *1766 Pitt token in red & brown uncirculated*
- *Five Continental Currency “Dollars.”* including one in brass
- *Hundreds of Colonials, in many different metals.* Unlike the Massachusetts silver collected by Noe numbers, the remaining colonial issues in the Lasser Collection were assembled by basic types and major variants, many of which are extremely rare. Therefore, it can be fairly stated that one will find the ultimate “Redbook” collection of Colonial coins at Colonial Williamsburg. Included are such famous pieces as;
 - 1786 New York “Non Vi Virtute Vici” and 1787
 - “Excelsior” and “Indian & Eagle on Globe” coppers
 - Immune Colombia patterns in silver & copper
 - 1785 Confederatio pattern copper with the “Inimmica Tyrannis” obverse
 - Dozens of State coppers of the 1785 through 1788 period
- *United States Mint Issues* of the late 18th century including:
 - 1792 Birch cent from the Parmelee sale of 1890
 - 1792 Half Disme

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- A very high grade 1793 Chain Cent (Sheldon-4).

In order to understand the money of the American Colonial era, one must also look at the coinage of the great European powers and their colonies. To tell this part of the story, at Colonial Williamsburg one will find a collection of more than 1400 world coins, spanning from the 15th century through the tail end of the 18th century, including;

- *The Colombian gold & silver cobs* which formed the core of Lasser & Restrepo's "The Cob Coinage of Columbia"
- *241 French gold & silver coins* assembled by Gadoury number, including many of the rarest issues.
- *114 Mexican gold & silver cobs & milled pieces*, starting with the first issues of the "New World."
- *500+ Dutch coins of all Provinces*, spanning the 16th through 18th centuries.
- *77 Peruvian coins minted in Lima*, spanning the reigns of Philip II through the portrait issues of Charles III.

As a great portion of the money changing hands during the American Colonial & Revolutionary War periods was paper, a very substantial collection is available at Colonial Williamsburg. Details & highlights include;

- *290 or so pieces of Continental Currency*, including examples signed by all of the known signers. Additionally, the collection includes numerous counterfeit issues, along with counterfeit detectors and uncut & partial sheets.
- *Around 900 pieces of Colonial paper money*, including:
 - 44 which pre-date 1750
 - Of these above-mentioned 44, 10 pre-date 1730
 - Many notes printed by Benjamin Franklin
 - Two 1722 Massachusetts fractional issues on parchment
 - Five different Massachusetts "Sword in Hand" issues of

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1775 and 1776

- Six different 1709 & 1711 New York issues, including one payable in "Lyon Dollars."
- Twelve pre-1773 Virginia issues
- Three Canadian issues including Quebec & Montreal treasury notes of the late 1750s and a piece of "card money."

To complete the picture, an extensive collection of exonumia is also maintained for study. A quick check of Colonial Williamsburg's holdings turn up;

- *An original silver 1756 "Kittanning Destroyed" medal*, the first struck in British North America, in addition to *dozens of Betts Medals*.
- *One of the first College of William & Mary (Lord Botetourt) gold academic award medals*, presented to Nathaniel Burwell in 1772.
- *150+ collection of Washington related coins & medals* spanning the 1778 to 1900 period including;
 - 1790 Manly medals in silver, copper and white metal
 - Two gold Funeral Medals, one provenanced to the family of Justice John Marshall
 - Three Getz half dollar patterns, one of which is struck in silver
- *Dozens of different coin scales & weights* of many countries
- *Period "foreign exchange" guides and charts*

This overview wouldn't be complete without mentioning our vast archaeological collection of some 500,000 pieces excavated in Colonial Williamsburg. Some of our more interesting numismatic discoveries include some 100+ 1773 Virginia halfpennies and parts of a plate used to print some of the 1758 issues of Virginia paper money.

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Currently the collection isn't on display, with the exception of a few medals. In the spring of 2006 a major exhibit of this material will open at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, one of Colonial Williamsburg's two state-of-the-art museums (the other being the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum). An on-line numismatic exhibit is planned for late 2005.

I'd like to take this opportunity to invite all C4 Members to visit Colonial Williamsburg, and take advantage of the rich and diverse experience offered here. Should you have a research need to examine any of these numismatic treasures in person, all you have to do is contact me at [REDACTED] or egoldstein@cwf.org to set up an appointment. I look forward to hearing from you!

For more information about Colonial Williamsburg, and planning a visit, please check out our website at www.history.org.



OBSERVATIONS ON THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY LOTTERY OF 1745

(Louis Jordan)

Many people assume government lotteries initially started in America in the 1970s and 80s. In fact, the first North American government lottery was held over 250 years ago! Lotteries are a part of American history going back to the earliest periods of British colonization. In 1615 the investors in the Somer Islands Plantation held a lottery to determine the specific parcels of lands to be assigned to each investor. Throughout the Colonial and Early America eras lotteries were commonly used to finance public works initiatives such as building or repairing meeting-houses, schools, roads and bridges. Colonial lottery tickets are avidly collected. Along with coinage, currency and fiscal papers they can

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be used to give us insight into the ingenuity of the colonists in addressing their significant and continual fiscal problems.

The first government lottery in Colonial America took place in the Puritan dominated colony of Massachusetts Bay in 1745. Massachusetts, like the other New England colonies, issued numerous emissions of paper money to help meet expenses. Indeed, there were so many notes in circulation that in 1737 Massachusetts paper currency was revalued at three to one (that is, three shillings Old Tenor to one shilling in Three-Fold or New Tenor notes) and then revalued again in 1742 at four to one (four shillings O.T. to one at Four-Fold or Second New Tenor).¹

In 1744, Massachusetts, which also included what is now Maine, was compelled to expend a great deal of money defending its frontier and seacoast against the French. Additionally, the colony was also required to protect the royal province of Nova Scotia, where the French had attacked and taken the fishing port of Canso. War had been declared with France as part of the War of Austrian Succession (1740-48), with the colonial portion of this conflict, known as King George's War (1744-48), focusing on British and French claims in Acadia. In order to finance military operations Massachusetts colonists had been subjected to unusually high poll and estate taxes in 1744. In 1745 expenses mounted as preparations progressed for an expeditionary force of 4,000 men, consisting of British sailors and colonial militia, to attack the French in Fort Louisbourg (Lewisburg) on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. Financial support from England was not forthcoming so the colony had to be innovative. On January 9, 1744/5, the General Court of Massachusetts Bay tried an experiment passing legislation that provided for the payment of the war debt, "in a manner the least burdensome to the inhabitants," that is, by a lottery.²

The act included specific details for the administration of the lottery. The directors of the lottery were Samuel Watts, John

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Quincy, James Bowdoin, Robert Hale and Thomas Hutchinson. It was their job to oversee the process and insure the laws were followed.

Sheets of blank tickets were printed and then fastened into a binder that was referred to as a “book” of tickets. Each ticket was divided into three sections or columns. The left and center columns were identical ticket stubs, while the right column contained an oblong ticket with the words “Massachusetts Government Lottery” and a line for a validation signature by one of the lottery commissioners. The tickets bear the date 1744 because the legislation was authorized on January 9, 1744/5 and the British did not begin the New Year until March 25th, thus the year was recorded as 1744. Each section of the ticket was attached to the adjacent section with a border having a geometric design, much like unissued indented currency was attached to a stub (see Figures 1-3).

A total of 25,000 tickets were printed and numbered consecutively 1-25,000 with the two stubs for each ticket given the same number as the attached ticket. When an individual purchased a chance in the lottery one of the directors numbered the two stubs as well as the ticket and signed the ticket before detaching it from the stubs within the border design area using a curved cut called an indent. The idea was that only the unique curve of the original indented ticket would perfectly join the indent on the stub. This was meant to deter anyone from trying to cash in by either counterfeiting a winning ticket or altering the number of a loosing ticket.

A ticket cost £1 10s (30s) Four-Fold N.T. At least 20% or 6s of the purchase price had to be paid in Massachusetts currency (either N.T., M.T. or O.T.), while the remaining 24s N.T. could be paid in like bills or in currency of “other governments of New England” that had not been prohibited by law (this meant NH and CT notes were acceptable but not RI currency). Obviously if one

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used older, devalued, O.T. notes the price of the ticket would be £6 (120s) or in Three-Fold M.T. £2 (40s). The law is silent on other methods of payment but presumably the lottery commission also gladly accepted hard currency such as Massachusetts and Spanish-American silver coins or any of the various gold or silver coins then in circulation, should someone be willing to part with them.

When all the tickets had been sold, the directors of the lottery, in the presence of any ticket holders who wished to attend, were to detach the center stubs by making an indent cut along the border design area connecting it to the innermost stub. The detached center stub was then rolled up and sewn with thread or silk and placed into a box marked with the letter A. The box was then put into a strongbox that was secured with five different locks, each of the directors having a key to one of the locks, and then the box was secured with each of the director's wax seals. The stubs on the inner margin were kept in the book as a record to be used to detect any mistakes or uncover fraud.

The directors also had additional sheets printed in two columns consisting of two tickets joined by a design. As with the other sheets, 25,000 of these double tickets were printed. Of the 25,000 outer tickets 5,422 were designated as "benefit" or winning tickets with the winning amount written in words and numbers, the others were left blank. The prizes were as follows (in Massachusetts Four-Fold New Tenor):

# of tickets	Amount of prize N.T.	Total awarded N.T.
2	£1,250	£2,500
4	£600	£2,500
6	£375	£2,250
8	£250	£2,000
16	£125	£2,000
36	£62 10s	£2,250
150	£30	£4,500
5,250	£3 15s	£19,500

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In all 5,422 tickets out of 25,000 would be winners, so the odds of winning something were better than one out of five (21.68% of the tickets were winners)! The total value of the prizes amounted to £37,500 N.T.

At least six days before the drawing the outer “benefit” and blank tickets were cut off using a curved indent cut at the design and then were individually rolled up and sewn with thread. They were then placed into a box marked with the letter B that was then secured in a strongbox with five locks and seals. The law is silent on the use of the inner ticket stub but presumably they were kept as a record so the benefit ticket and stub could be matched at the indent if a question arose as to the validity of a benefit ticket.

According to the act of January 9th, notification of the drawing was to be given fourteen days in advance and was to take place on or before April 9, 1745. The two strongboxes were to be “brought to Faneuil Hall, or some other convenient place in the town of Boston, as shall be agreed upon by the major part of the directors, by nine of the clock in the forenoon of the same day, and placed on a table.” The boxes holding the tickets would then be removed from the strongboxes and would be well shaken in front of all ticket holders who wished to attend. The two boxes were then to be opened and one ticket would be drawn from box A containing the numbered ticket stubs and one ticket would be drawn from box B containing the 5,422 benefit tickets and the 19,578 blanks. The two tickets, which had been rolled and sewn, were then opened and the contents announced. If a benefit ticket was drawn the lottery ticket number was recorded along with the amount of the benefit. The process was to continue all day. If the lottery could not be completed in one day the boxes were resealed and the drawings would continue on the succeeding days, except Sunday, until all the tickets had been announced (No illustrations of colonial American lotteries survive but a few illustrations of

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contemporary lotteries in England are included below as Figures 4 and 5).

Once the winners had presented their tickets, they were to be paid within 40 days. Interestingly, the total amount of the prizes equaled £37,500 N.T. and the total ticket sales for all 25,000 tickets at 30s N.T. (£1 10s) equaled £37,500 N.T. However, 20% of the winnings were collected as a tax “for the use and service of this government.” Thus, the winners were only given 80% of their winnings. Of the £37,500 N.T. total income, 80% or £30,000 N.T. was paid out as winnings and 20% or £7,500 N.T. went to the provincial treasury.

According to *The Boston Weekly Post Boy* of Monday, April 8, 1745, the lottery had to be postponed until June 4th because there were still unsold tickets.³ When ticket sales slowed down some people feared the lottery would actually drain government funds, since the advertised cash prizes would amount to more than was taken in on ticket sales! Instructions dated as late as May 1745, now in the Colonial American Manuscript Collection at the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Notre Dame, requests the newly elected representatives to the Massachusetts General Court from the town of Boston to stop the lottery for this very reason. A brief discussion and transcription of the document is included below as an appendix. Eventually all the tickets were sold and the lottery drawing commenced. *The Boston Evening Post* of Monday, June 10, 1745, mentioned the lottery drawing had started on the previous Friday at Faneuil Hall, while *The Boston Weekly Post Boy* of the same day stated it had begun late Thursday and continued all day Friday and then until about 8:00 or 9:00 PM on Saturday, with no higher prize awarded than £125. *The Boston Gazette* of Tuesday June 11th stated that the lottery drawing was still underway. However, at that moment final preparations were being made for a massive land and sea assault against Fort Louisbourg. The attack commenced on Sunday, June 16th, and the fort was

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taken on Monday. During the following days the French commander Louis Du Pont Duchambon surrendered to the British naval commander, Commodore Peter Warren and then to the Massachusetts Militia Commander-in-Chief William Pepperrell. As these events unfolded they took top billing in all the Boston papers. Few additional facts were reported about the lottery. No paper published a list of the winning numbers but *The Boston Gazette* of June 18, 1745, mentioned the lottery office in Faneuil Hall had a record of all winning ticket numbers and one could go there to check their tickets.

The lottery had been a success. Indeed, it had spawned imitators even before the drawing was completed. For those "adventurers," as lottery ticket holders were called, who had not been successful *The Boston Evening Post* of June 17th mentioned there would be a lottery in Providence, Rhode Island, in July for which tickets could be acquired locally at £3 O.T. per ticket.

The Rhode Island lottery yielded £3,000 to build a bridge across the Weybosset River in Providence. Many other lotteries followed. In 1960 John Ezell listed 164 authorized colonial lotteries up to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War (RI had 82, MA 22, CT 19, NY 15, NH 8, NJ 7, PA 5, NC 2, DE 1, MD 1, VA 1 and West FL 1) and others have been uncovered since that time. Lotteries continued to be held throughout the war and the Confederation period (RI 24, MA 23 of which one was only in the Maine district, VA 13, CT 12, NH 7, VT 6, NC 5, PA 5, NY 3, NJ 3, GA 2, DE 1 and SC 1 as well as the four national lotteries organized by the Continental Congress) and continued into the middle of the Nineteenth century. See Ezell's informative charts on the various lotteries on pp. 55-59, 64, 65, and 71- 72.

Appendix

Introduction to the Draft Instructions of May 1745 to Stop the Massachusetts Lottery

Below is a transcription of draft instructions for the newly elected Boston representatives to the General Court concerning the 1745 Massachusetts Lottery. The document resides in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of Notre Dame, MSN/COL/ 2710-1-F1.

On Friday, May 3, 1745, a Boston Town Meeting was held in Faneuil Hall to elect four representatives to the General Court. Three hundred and forty two votes were cast and Thomas Cushing (326 votes), Andrew Oliver (218 votes), Thomas Hutchinson (186 votes) and Samuel Welles (175 votes) were elected. Following the election Jeremiah Allen moved that instructions be given to the new representatives to stop the lottery. After some additional business the meeting adjourned for lunch until 3:00 PM. During the afternoon session Allen's suggestion was approved. The record stated,

Voted that a Committee be chose to draw up Instructions for the representatives relating to the said Lottery accordingly, also Voted that – James Allen Esq' Ezekiel Lewes Esq' & Mr. Jeremiah Allen Esq' be the said Committee Who are desired to lay the draft of their instructions before the Town for their Consideration at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting.⁴

The draft instructions discussed in these minutes is the item transcribed below. It was produced between Friday, May 3rd and Friday, May 17th. At the next Town Meeting, which convened at 4:00 PM on May 17th, the instructions were presented to the assembled citizens and read allowed. The minutes of the meeting explain that after the instructions were read “A Motion was thereupon made, & Seconded by Several of the Inhabitants, and a Question put, whether the Town would Accept of the Draft of Instructions, and it was Voted in the Negative.”⁵

The draft is dated to May 1745 with ample space left blank between the month and the year for a date to be added and the

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document was signed by each of the committee members. The instructions requested the representatives to do their utmost to put a stop to the lottery. The reason for stopping the lottery was not directly stated but was implied in the document. Apparently, as late as May 1745 there were several unsold tickets. The problem arose in that the prizes from the lottery had been posted and the total of the prizes equaled the amount that would be taken in from the sale of all the printed tickets. There were 25,000 tickets that sold for 30s N.T. each. The total receipts from the sale of all the tickets was £ 37,500 N.T. and the total of the prizes equaled £ 37,500 N.T., thus, all the money taken in was to be awarded.

Clearly Massachusetts Bay would retain ownership of any unsold ticket, but would not be required to put up the 30s N.T. purchase price for each unsold ticket. According to the May 1745 instructions it seemed likely many tickets would remain unsold, as the instructions stated: "For the Province to take such a large share of the Tickets, as seems likely to fall to their Lott, without paying one Farthing for them." This implies the colony would not have the full amount of money needed to award the prizes. The instructions went on to ask what if "the principal Benefit Tickets should fall to the Share of private Persons, how can They be paid?" That is, if the winning tickets were sold to individuals, instead of among the unsold tickets held by the colony, then the colony would be obligated to come up with the promised cash. How the cash would be raised was unknown since it was not thought to be legal to impose a tax for such a purpose.

The instructions concluded by stating the colony had born considerable expense in equipping a military expedition against Fort Louisbourg and hoped the king would repay them for their expenses.⁶ It was thought the lottery would ease this financial burden, however, if all the tickets were not sold, the lottery would actually increase the burden! The committee concluded abandoning the lottery would be in the financial interest of the colony. Although it seems several people agreed with these

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sentiments the instructions did not win a majority vote and therefore were not approved.

Note to the transcription: Within the text of the instructions explanatory information I have included has been set off with brackets []. Bracketed words [in italic] represent insertions or deletions made by the individual who wrote this draft.

Draft Instructions of May 1745 to the Boston Representatives in the General Court to Stop the Massachusetts Lottery

The Committee appointed to draw up Instructions for the Representatives relating to the Lottery, report the following Draft Viz^h

Gentlemen

This Town [i.e. Boston] confiding in your Loyalty to Our Sovereign, & firm Attachment to the Liberties & Privileges of this People, have made Choice of you, to represent them in the next General Assembly & expect of you, that you do your Utmost, and that very early to prevent the Mischief, which may Arise to the Province, by proceeding upon the Lottery, according to a Resolve or Order of Court on ye 5th of April Ulti^o [ultimo, that is, last]. It being questioned by Some, whether such an Order is sufficient to overset and repeal, or any ways to Alter a Law made with greatest Solemnity? And then, whether it be consistent with Justice? For the Province to take such a large share of the Tickets, as seems likely to fall to their Lott, without paying one Farthing for them; The Foundation, on which the Lottery seems to be built, being this; That every Ticket, that is purchased, should pay six Pounds [that is, £6 in O.T. which equaled 30s Four-Fold N.T.] into Bank; and if the Province [*Tickets*] pay nothing, and the principal Benefit Tickets should fall to the Share of private Persons, how can They be paid? Since all the public Money is Appropriated to other Uses. To this Some may say, a Tax must be laid on the People, but it is

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[best to] disputable, Whether the Charter can warrant such a Tax, it not being for the necessary Defence & Support of the Government; and, Although it may be said the Province have an equal *[chance]* of being great Gainers, yet 'tis to be feared it may do Us more harm than good;

For Since, We may hope, Our Charge in the Expedition will be repaid us by the Crown, it will doubtless be Objected at Home, We have gained so much by this — Lottery, which was projected to lessen Our Charge, that it will be needless to grant such Sum, as otherwise, they may be inclined to Allow us, and so in the End may be a detriment rather than any Advantage to Us. Nay it is more that probable, they will Object, that as We are got into the Method of Lotterys, in order to ease our Burthens [Burdens], We may proceed in that way, and so save them, [a phrase is blotted out] the Expence [Expense] of defreying [defraying] the Charge of the Expedition.

Upon there and such like considerations We desire and hope, this Projection may never be further proceeded on, but a final Stop may be put to it by the next Gen^r Assembly, and therefore Direct you to Use your Interests, and Endeavours accordingly.

To

The Hono^{ble} Samuel Welles, Esquire
Thomas Cushing, Esquire

Thomas Hutchinson, Esquire

Andrew Oliver, Esquire

The foregoing Draft of Instructions is Submitted
Boston May 1745 by

Eze: [Ezekiel] Lewis
Ja^s [James] Allen
Jer [Jeremiah] Allen

[folded for filing and docketed as “Report of Com^{te} for drawing up of instructions for Rep^l – May 1745”]

ENDNOTES

¹ At first Massachusetts notes were accepted at par with specie, which was predominately the Spanish-American silver eight reales cob, called a Spanish-American “dollar” by the colonists. In Massachusetts the Spanish-American dollar was valued at 6 shillings. One could obtain a full weight Spanish-American silver dollar for 6s in paper money when the first paper notes were emitted in 1690. However, as more paper money was put into circulation individuals refused to accept paper at par with specie. By 1737 so much paper money was in circulation it took 22s6d in paper to equal a Spanish dollar. To rectify this problem Massachusetts decided to revalue its paper money. Starting with the issue of February 4, 1737, Massachusetts Bay introduced a new series of notes, called New Tenor money, legislated to have three times the value of equivalent denomination notes from earlier emissions, which were then designated as Old Tenor. However, as more N.T. notes were printed inflation continued and the value of both types of notes continued to drop. Once again, another adjustment to the currency was legislated. For the issue of January 15, 1742, notes were to have four times the value of equivalent denomination notes from O.T. emissions. At this time the emissions from 1737-1740 became known as Middle Tenor, First New Tenor or Three-Fold Tenor, while the 1742 and later emissions became known as New Tenor (in relation to Middle Tenor), Second New Tenor or Four-Fold Tenor. In effect Massachusetts had three different types of currency circulating at once; in 1742 a Spanish-American cob dollar was valued at 24s9d in O.T. bills, 8s3ds in M.T. bills or 6s2d in N.T. notes. Unfortunately inflation continued so that by 1749 a Spanish-

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American dollar was valued at 45s in O.T. bills, 15s in M.T. bills or 11s3d in N.T. notes. Because individuals might make a purchase using all three varieties of currency it was essential for merchants to know the current inflation rates of O.T., M.T. and N.T. bills, several conversion charts were printed for this purpose!

²Undocumented quotes in this paper are taken directly from the lottery legislation as cited in the edition listed at the end of this paper (*Acts and Resolves*). Of course, the colony continued to issue paper money. On June 20, 1744, Massachusetts authorized £26,037 10s worth of notes followed by eighteen additional emissions through January 22, 1750.

³At a meeting of the Boston Selectmen of April 10, 1745, it was voted that the lottery commissioners could use the “office and Hall,” that is, in Faneuil Hall, for the drawing, *Report*, vol. 17, p. 106.

⁴*Report*, vol. 14, pp. 72-74 with the quote on p. 74.

⁵*Report*, vol. 14, p. 74-75 with the quote on p. 75.

⁶Payment was finally made in 1749 when the largest shipment of British coppers to be sent to the colonies arrived in Boston on the ship *Mermaid*. The British parliament sent Massachusetts Bay almost two long tons of Spanish silver coins (650,000 ounces in 217 chests) as well as ten long tons of English coppers (in one hundred casks). According to the Massachusetts Currency Reform Act of January 26, 1749, the total reimbursement was equivalent to £183,649 2s7 and 1/2d in British sterling. The coppers included over 800,000 halfpence and more than 420,000 farthings all dated 1749, which was approximately thirty percent of the entire mintage for the year.

Although the shipment had long been expected, the storage space needed for the coins was greater than the colonists had anticipated.

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The ship arrived in Boston harbor on Monday, September 18, 1749, and the commander of the *Mermaid*, Captain Montague, along with one of the colony's London agents, William Bollan, who had accompanied the shipment from England, went to the Governor's Board to inform them they could take possession of the funds. However, the shipment was so large there was no place to secure the coins! The records of the General Court states the situation unfolded as follows:

Voted, that Ezekiel Lewis & Samuel Danforth, Esquires go with Mr. Treasurer Foye to his House in King's Street, & see if there be any convenient Place for Lodging the publick Money there, & treat with the Tenant about her Removal in Order to the Treasurer & his familys removing thither.

Mr. Lewis reported thereupon that the Committee had viewed the House (which they found well accommodated for receiving the said Money) & discoursed with the Tenant, who could by no Means be persuaded to remove out of it.

Voted thereupon, That a brick Arch be built in the Cellar of the House where the Treasurer now dwells for the Reception of the Province Money from on board his Majesty's Ship Mermaid as soon as may be, & that Samuel Danforth & Andrew Oliver Esquire assist the Treasurer in the said Affair.”! (as quoted in Crosby, p. 227)

REFERENCES

The Acts and Resolves, Public and Private of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, Boston: for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by Albert Wright, 1878, vol. 3 (of 5), pp. 195-199, Province Laws 1744-1745, 4th session, Chapter 20, “An act for raising by a lottery the sum of seven thousand five hundred pounds, for the services of this province in the present year.”

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Ashton, John, *A History of English Lotteries*, London: Leadenhall Press, 1893.

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Ezell, John Samuel, *Fortune's Merry Wheel: The Lottery in America*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1960.

A Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston Containing the Boston Town Records, 1742-1757, Volume 14 of the Record Commissioner's Reports, Boston: Rockwell and Church, 1885.

A Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston Containing the Selectmen's Minutes from 1742/3-1753, Volume 17 of the Record Commissioner's Reports, Boston: Rockwell and Church, 1887.

FIGURES

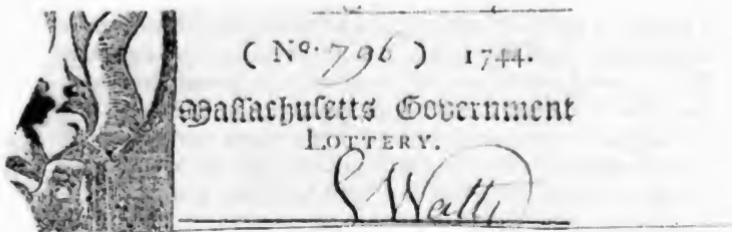


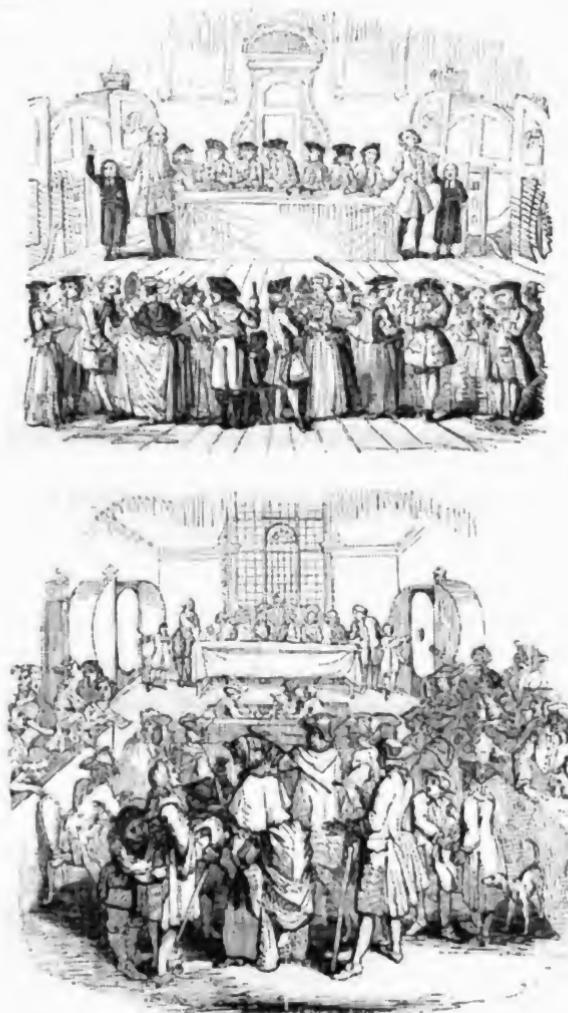
Figure 1 - Indented ticket from the 1745 Massachusetts government lottery, 30x97mm, numbered 796, signed by lottery director Samuel Watts. The reverse is blank. Reproduced with permission from the Robert H. Gore, Jr. Numismatic Collection, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Notre Dame.



Figure 2 – Unused remainder 2s6d note from the first Maryland emission of paper money in 1733, 71x240mm. The stub and design margin (where the note was to be indented) are intact. The reverse is blank. Reproduced with permission from the Robert H. Gore, Jr. Numismatic Collection, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Notre Dame.

(Nº)	[borderdesign]	(Nº)	[borderdesign]	(Nº) 1744- Massachusetts Government LOTTERY.
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Figure 3. A conceptual drawing of what an unissued Massachusetts lottery ticket might have looked like. There was an inner stub on the far left, probably attached to the center stub by a border design and another border design connecting the center stub to the oblong ticket. In the lottery legislation the border design was described as "oblique lines, flourishes or devices, in such manner as the said managers and directors, or the major part of them shall think most safe and convenient." There was a blank line on the ticket for the signature of one of the lottery directors.



Drawing of the Lottery in Guildhall, 1751.

Figures 4 and 5. Two illustrations of mid-Eighteenth century English lotteries from the *Every-Day Book* of Philip Hone (1780-1851), as illustrated in Ashton on p. 68. Both illustrations show the use of drums (one drum is for the benefit and blank stubs while the other drum is for the tickets) located on the right and left sides, rather than the boxes described in the Massachusetts legislation. Figure 4 is unlabelled while Figure 5 is identified as a 1751 lottery drawing in Guildhall (London).



Daniel Van Voorhis Coining Proposal

(Marc Mayhugh)

Daniel Van Voorhis was a New York silversmith, who was somehow involved in the colonial coining operations for both Machin's Mills, and Vermont. The full extent of his involvement, however, is unknown at this time. Speculation has it that either Van Voorhis, or his partner, William Coley, provided the dies for the early Vermont coins and extant documentation tells us that he was one of the original Machin's Mill participants. He was listed as a cashier in the Machin Indenture¹.

Ken Bressett relates that Van Voorhis and Coley had applied for the opportunity to coin copper for New York State in February, 1787, but were unsuccessful in that endeavor.² Prior to this petition, Van Voorhis, acting alone, had also applied to the federal government to manage a newly proposed mint. The following is a transliteration of that proposal.³

To the Honorable the delegates of the thirteen United States of North America in Congress Assembled

*The Petition of Daniel Van Voorhis of the City of New York
Silversmith*

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner a native of said State and at the present a citizen did at the commencement of the late war between Great Britain and the United States take an active part in favor of his country and at the evacuation of the American Army out of this city, did remove himself and family from his possessions determined to sacrifice his property with the cause of his Country or obtain his freedom and in consequenc of said Resolution, did as for ____ him _____ contribute to the support thereof with cheerfulness.

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*Your petitioner is lately informed that ____ your ____
honorable Body has resolved to establish a Mint for the purpose of
stamping a coin to answer Federal Purposes and that a Master
Coiner is to be appointed under certain penalties therein
mentioned for the due execution of the great trust reposed in him.*

*Your petitioner being well acquainted with the intrinsick
value of Gold and silver and also of Coinage begs your Honorable
Body will be pleased to appoint him to be Master Coiner of said
Mint , he having it in his own power to give any security that may
be required of him either of his own personal estate, or two
indifferent Persons as may be required of him by your Honorable
Body _____ and your petitioner*

As in Duty Bound

Will ever Pray

Daniel Van Voorhis

Read 23 Oct. 1786

From the reading of this proposal it is obvious that Van Voorhis is a very articulate and confident petitioner. He is careful to mention his citizenship, his sacrifice and loss of possessions, as well as his patriotism in an effort to sway the Congress. It has been said that he was friends with several members of Congress and he probably felt he had an excellent chance of landing this job.⁴ The most revealing statement in the whole coining proposal is the claim that not only is he "well acquainted" with the intrinsic value of gold and silver, but also that of "coinage". This simple statement, made in 1786, strongly indicates that Van Voorhis was probably much more involved in the Vermont coinage than previously thought. Where else would he have become "well acquainted" with coinage? His partner in the silversmith business, William Coley, was known to have been working with Rueben Harmon at the Vermont mint during this time providing Van Voorhis with the opportunity to learn the trade. Later, Van Voorhis joined with the Harmon mint group and later still, teamed up with the Machin group. I believe this key statement in the petition to Congress

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indicates that Van Voorhis knew much more about the minting process than just cutting dies or working as a cashier.

In an earlier article⁵ I noted that Van Voorhis' application for the job as "master coiner" was a rather lofty ambition for someone who, up to this time, had been listed as a "cashier" for the Machin outfit; I also suggested that perhaps his involvement in early American coinage required reevaluation. Interestingly enough, I arrived at these conclusions nearly forty years after Everett T. Sipsey had the very same thoughts. Sipsey, however, was a bit more controversial, suggesting that Van Voorhis and Coley were not only responsible for most of the Vermont and Machin coinage, but may also have produced the early Rahway New Jersey copper dies. Essentially, his theories attribute most of the work formerly thought to be that of James F. Atlee to Van Voorhis and Coley. He bases this on the fact that the Machin Indenture refers to Van Voorhis and Coley as silversmiths and does not mention Atlee as such.

Sipsey also made a very interesting observation in noting that the touchemarks on Van Voorhis' silverware are very similar to the lettering on the Vermont coins -- a thought that deserves further investigation. With today's technology, photographic overlays could probably prove or disapprove whether there is a similarity or not. And, while I don't possess the skill or equipment to perform this task, I do own four pieces of Van Voorhis' silverware, which I would gladly supply to anyone willing to give it a try.

In summation, there is a strong possibility that Daniel Van Voorhis had a more important role in early American coinage than was previously thought. His coinage proposal to the Continental Congress would seem to suggest this and Everett T. Sipsey's controversial theories about Van Voorhis have yet to be disproved. Tony Carlotto, in his Vermont Book makes note of Van Voorhis' involvement in these coinage experiments stating, "It seems as if

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he was a very busy man to be working with the Rupert, Newburgh and New York type coins at the same time period".⁶

For interest and completeness, the following figures depict hallmarks for Van Voorhis (Figure 1), and Van Voorhis and Coley (Figures 2 and 3) taken from silver spoons made by them.



Figure 1. Silversmith mark of Van Voorhis.



Figures 2 and 3. Silversmith marks for Van Voorhis and Coley.

ENDNOTES:

- ¹ Crosby, Sylvester S.: "The Early Coins of America" Quarterman reprint 1974 p.199
- ² Bressett, Kenneth E.: "Studies on Money in Early America", Vermont Copper Coinage, Chapter 11. The American Numismatic Society, 1976.
- ³ Butler, John P. (compiler): Documents of the Continental Congress -- The Papers of the Continental Congress 1774-1789; Vol. III, 1978

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- ⁴ Sipsey, Everett T.: "New Facts and Ideas on the State Coinages: A Blend of Numismatics, History and Genealogy", The Colonial Newsletter, Oct. 1964
- ⁵ Mayhugh, Marc: "Van Voorhis and Coley Silversmiths" C4 Newsletter, Spring 2002
- ⁶ Carlotto ,Tony: "The Copper Coins of Vermont," Colonial Coin Collectors Club:1998



A WOOD'S HIBERNIA HALFPENNY COUNTERMARK

(Robert J. Merchant, Jr.)

A 1723 Woods Hibernia Halfpence bearing a previously unknown countermark has recently been discovered. Figures 1 provides photos of the obverse and reverse of this coin.



**FIGURE 1 –WOOD'S HIBERNIA HALFPENNY
COUNTERSTAMP**

The countermark, which appears on the reverse, consists of a circular coin-like depression. A crown is located at the center of the design, surrounded by the word COLCHESTER, with the

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number “3” appearing below the crown. There is a rosette-like stop between the first and last letters of the city name. The coin-like countermark has a full set of denticles around the border. This countermark is not listed in J. Gavin Scott’s “British Countermarks on Copper & Bronze Coins” [1975], nor is it listed in Gregory G. Brunk’s “Merchant Countermarks on World Coins” [1989]. The coin was purchased by the author from Simmons Gallery Mail Bid Sale #28 (July 2003), lot 470.

This countermark was possibly issued in Colchester, a city in Essex, England, located near the English Channel, for an unknown purpose. Colchester is regarded as one of the more historic cities in all of England, and was once the capital of Roman Britain. In addition, it is considered to be Britain’s oldest recorded town.

It is known that Wood’s Hibernia Halfpence, though coined specifically for use in Ireland, circulated widely throughout the United Kingdom, in addition to being exported in large numbers to the American Colonies. The coins are often found in well-circulated condition. However, relatively few countermarked Wood’s coins are known. A comprehensive survey of countermarked Wood’s coins would be an interesting study.

The auction lot description for this coin stated that the countermark is “possibly military [in origin]”. The Colchester Castle Museum (<http://www.colchestermuseums.org.uk/>), which is the city’s historical museum, was contacted for information about this coin, with their curator of archaeology replying that they had no information concerning the countermark. The Colchester Treasure Hunting Club has also been contacted, again without producing any information. Their web site <http://www.colchestertreasurehunting.co.uk/home.htm> illustrates some of the amazing metal detecting finds that are being made in the area, and also includes historical information and images of Colchester.

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Some original uses of the countermark die-punch may have been: a) as a tax stamp, b) as a stamp to make lead or wax seals, or c) as a stamp to mark military items. The numeral "3" has a purposeful, yet unknown, meaning. It could indicate a value (e.g., 3 pence), or a military organization (e.g., 3rd Regiment), or something else entirely. No other British countermarks listed in Brunk [1989] or Scott [1975] are similar to this one. For now, the story behind this countermarked coin remains a mystery.



A PRIMER FOR THE CONTEMPORARY BRITISH COUNTERFEIT HALFPENNY ENTHUSIAST (Byron K. Weston)

Many collectors of contemporary counterfeit British halfpence started off collecting counterfeit halfpence with little understanding of the genuine issues or even a basic understanding of the counterfeits themselves. This really isn't all that surprising since definitive references for either have yet to be written. Until recently research of counterfeits has lacked organization or direction and charting the many die varieties of genuine issues hasn't gone beyond those contained in the British Museum collection. Despite these shortcomings, to appreciate and understand one it would be beneficial for the collector to develop a good basic understanding of the other. This basic knowledge would also help prevent making some of the more common mistakes and is as important to the veteran collector as it would be to the novice.

The two basic classifications of spurious British halfpence, Evasions and Counterfeits, are perhaps the most easily understood. Collectors usually have no problem differentiating between the two. Further breaking down spurious halfpence into a third category, Imitations, may seem to be complicating matters, but understanding why a spurious halfpenny may be called an

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imitation rather than an evasion or counterfeit might also help a collector avoid some of the other misidentification pitfalls.

Imitations may oftentimes make use of traits found on both evasions and counterfeits. Further complicating matters is the fact that in some cases all three types or classifications were made by the same makers. Fortunately for the novice or even a veteran collector it is not necessary to delve too deeply into issues of provenance or relationships. These more complex issues are perhaps better left to dedicated students of the series and aren't necessarily required to collect and enjoy the series. Still it does help to possess some of these basic understandings, not only to increase your enjoyment of the series but also to aid you in your quest, perhaps making it less likely for you to make mistakes.

Basic explanations of these three categories are as follows:

Evasion – A series, or combination of several series of both halfpence and farthings, numbering nearly 500 varieties, that were created specifically to evade British counterfeiting laws regarding the imitation of genuine George II and George III halfpence and farthings. In order to avoid legal penalties, manufacturers made use of nonsensical legends, and legends which parodied popular events and personalities after 1776 and into the early years of the Napoleonic Wars.

Counterfeit – A contemporary counterfeit bearing standard legends and a date conforming to that of regal issues for the monarch depicted on the obverse.

Imitation – A counterfeit with a flaw of some sort in the legend, such as a missing or wrong letter, an upside-down letter, and/or a date that is not within the regal years of the genuine issue for the monarch depicted on the obverse. A general consensus has arisen among dedicated students of counterfeit halfpence to call imitations with legend flaws simply “counterfeits with mistakes” while calling those with an evasive or wrong date imitations rather

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than counterfeits. This would seem to make things a bit less complicated, not only for the veteran collector but for the novice as well. Therefore, in its simplest form, an imitation is a counterfeit with a non-regal date.

Perhaps the biggest obstacle for any collector is differentiating between genuine and counterfeit specimens. This can be most difficult on heavily worn specimens but can also be difficult even for the dedicated student where a high grade counterfeit specimen is well made. For the collector it often helps to have an additional understanding of the genuine issues to avoid some of the basic pitfalls in identifying counterfeits.

Often mistakes are made in identifying a genuine halfpenny as a counterfeit or imitation. In most cases, the reason is the misidentification of the numerals in the date. Genuine halfpence number punch styles allow them to be mistaken as a different number, especially when the date is near the edge of the planchet or when a specimen is worn. The British 'J' style number one is often mistaken as a seven, just as the flat-topped style three can also be. Also, the three is often mistaken as a five, and sometimes fives are mistaken as sixes. Often the British 'Q' style number two is also easily mistaken as a nine perhaps sometimes creating an imitation date in the mind of the observer. In some cases the counterfeiters have purposefully altered or accidentally botched a numeral in the date, sometimes making identification of the intended number very difficult. However, the collector can often avoid making basic mistakes in identifying genuine halfpence as counterfeits by having a good understanding of other design elements used in making the genuine issues and with what dates those elements belong.

George II issues are broken down into two basic styles; the 1st Issue, Young Head style of 1729 to 1739, and the 2nd Issue, Old Head style of 1740 to 1754. The 2nd Issue, Old Head style can be

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further broken down because a U was used in place of the V in GEORGIVS of the obverse legend during the early years of this design style from 1740 to 1745. The Royal Mint then went back to the V usage in 1746. It is also important to note that 1741 is the only year in the George II series in which no halfpence were produced at the Royal Mint.

**Geo. II, 1st Issue, Young Head
1729 to 1739**

**Geo. II, 2nd Issue, Old Head, GEORGIUS
1740 & 1742 to 1745**

**Geo. II, 2nd Issue, Old Head, GEORGIUS
1746 to 1754**

One of the most common errors leading to misidentifying the genuine 1st Issue, Young Head design as a counterfeit is in the design style of the numeral three punches that were used during the 1730s. The design style of the three punch employed during these years at the Royal Mint is compact and the front of the wedge shaped flat-topped three has a downward spike (serif) on the front which sometimes comes very close to touching the middle part of the numeral. With a little wear, toning, patination, or perhaps even a little damage these threes will often look more like a five. Should a specimen be suspected of being dated in the 1750s but have the 1st issue, Young Head obverse design style it would be more likely that the suspect five is actually a three and, more often than not, could be genuine rather than a counterfeit or imitation. Knowing and understanding this can certainly help a collector from mistaking a three for a five as well as aiding in a determination toward authenticity or the specimen being a counterfeit.

Misinterpretation of the date numerals of the 2nd Issue, Old Head design, 1740s and early 1750s, isn't as likely because the design

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style of the letter and number punches was changed along with the device punches. It certainly still can happen, however, and the collector should remain forever vigilant in properly identifying a date.

There are some obvious tips or tells of the Old Head design that can help in identifying a counterfeit or imitation. The most obvious is that no halfpence were produced at the Royal Mint in 1741. Any halfpenny using the 1741 date would most certainly be an imitation despite the obverse device style that is used. (Figures 1-3)



1741 Ctft 1/2d

Figure 1. 1741-dated imitation somewhat more reminiscent of the 1st Issue, Young Head design style.



1741 Ctft 1/2d

Figure 2. 1741-dated imitation using a more appropriate 2nd Issue, Old Head design style, but using a V in GEORGIVS which!should more likely be a U.



1741 Ctft 1/2d

Figure 3. 1741-dated imitation using a George III obverse. Some collectors might also consider this a mule although no genuine halfpence were produced for this year.

The other design element that can help a collector in identifying a counterfeit would be the letter punch change to a U in GEORGIUS that was introduced with new design in 1740. Obviously, any halfpenny dated from 1740 through 1745 and using a V in the legend would be a counterfeit. Likewise, any halfpenny dated between 1746 and 1754 that used the U instead of a V would be a counterfeit. Of course, an accurate identification of the date is also necessary in making such a determination and can also aid in determining if a specimen is genuine rather than a counterfeit.

The George III, 1st Issue, halfpence of the years 1770 to 1775 are, perhaps, the most counterfeited of any series of coins. Counterfeiting had become much more prevalent during and after these regal years of manufacture. Several imitation varieties can be found with dates as late as 1794. (Figure 4) Also, England had possessions in all four corners of the world during the reign of George III and the counterfeits and imitations have turned up virtually all over the world.



**G.0635/B.0570
1794 Imitation**

Figure 4. A 1794-dated imitation halfpenny. The G.0635/B.0570 attribution is taken from: Greensword, Malachy, "A Journey Through the Monkakian Rain Forests in Search of the Spiney Fubbaduck," 1993

Genuine George III halfpence produced at the Royal Mint consist of die marriages of two obverse and three reverse major types. There are many minor variations but a knowledge of what the major types look like and in what obverse/reverse combinations they exist would certainly assist a collector in determining whether a specimen is genuine or a contemporary counterfeit.

Obverse Orientations

Obverse 1 exists only with years 1770, 1771, 1772 & 1773

Obverse 2 exists only with years 1774 & 1775

Reverse Orientations

Reverse A exists with years 1770, 1771 & 1772 (Figure 5)

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Reverse B exists with years 1772 & 1773 (Figure 6)

Reverse C exists only with years 1774 & 1775 (Figure 7)



Figure 5. Obverse 1, Reverse A



Figure 6. Obverse 1, Reverse B



Figure 7. Obverse 2, Reverse C

Contemporary counterfeit halfpence of George III are also the most diverse in variety and styles, as well as being overall much more numerous than George II issues. Counterfeitors of the George III era also counterfeited George II issues and dates seemingly without concern. Once a positive identification of a date is made it is easy enough to determine if the date falls outside of the period in which the genuine regal issues were produced. The imitation dates were sometimes taken to extremes for both George II and George III issues where dates of one monarch's regal issues were used on a counterfeit depicting the effigy of the other. Some collectors refer to these counterfeits as mules but like those bearing dates before, between, or after the regal year's production of genuine issues these so-called mules are, after all, imitations as well.

Once a collector has gained and retained a good, general knowledge of regal issues, the biggest challenge he or she will face are counterfeits bearing the appropriate date for the monarch depicted on the obverse. Although most counterfeit halfpence are obvious, and were made after the regal years of manufacture, it is usually the better, exceptionally well made and more deceptive counterfeits that sometimes fool even the most ardent student of

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contemporary counterfeit British halfpence. These extremely challenging specimens are far and few between and so almost any collector willing to take some time to study the genuine issues, as well as the counterfeits, will be able to collect and enjoy the series to its fullest.

Figure 8 presents representative counterfeit coppers dated 1770 through 1775.

Figure 8



Peck Pl. 50
1770 coin x



1771 Ctft 1/2d



1772 Ctft 1/2d



Figure 8. A group of counterfeits with regal dates 1770 to 1775.



HISTORICAL NOTES

In the seventeenth century, America lacked a sufficient supply of coins, forcing colonists to rely upon a wide assortment of outdated castoffs from England, Ireland, Spain and to a lesser extent other

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countries. This fact is observed at various recovery sites where an array of coins is continuously being unearthed. Early accounts of such discoveries are rare, but their occurrences provide an important glimpse into the monetary problems that faced America during the colonial era. One unusual contemporary report dated 1739 recounts the recovery of a large quantity of coins in Virginia. It was believed that the hoard had been hidden by an official as a means to protect public funds during a period of internal unrest. In this instance, the coins were found on lands that once belonged to Colonel Joseph Bridger (1628-1686) who was Paymaster for the king's forces in Virginia at the time of Bacon's Rebellion in 1676.

As historical background, Bacon's Rebellion stemmed from a clash between Governor William Berkeley and Nathaniel Bacon, Jr. over Indian affairs. Bacon was related to Berkeley by marriage, having been sent to the colony by his father in the hopes that his troublesome son would mature. The Governor initially welcomed him, providing him with a land grant and a seat on his Council. Trouble began in 1675 when the Doeg Indians raided the plantation of Thomas Mathews over a payment dispute. Colonists responded by attacking in error the Susquehannaugs Indians, which led to large scale Indian raids along the frontier. While Berkeley pleaded for restraint, others, including Bacon, refused and seized several friendly Appomattox Indians for suspected theft of corn. Berkeley's reprimand of colonists who took part in that action caused a rift as to who offered the better course for dealing with Indians. As matters continued to get out of control, Virginia in 1676 declared war on 'bad Indians' and placed restrictions on Indian trade, which affected Bacon adversely. In an attempt to gain power in setting policies pertaining to Indian affairs, Bacon demanded to be appointed a leader in the militia. Upon being refused, he was selected as a 'General' by a group of volunteer Indian fighters. Bacon, thereafter, initiated unauthorized attacks on several Indian tribes, which led Berkeley to declare him a rebel. In spite of this label, Bacon's popularity increased, leading to his election to the House of Burgesses. During a heated debate on

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Indian affairs, Bacon excused himself only to return with his forces that surrounded the statehouse and demanded that he be appointed General of all colonial forces. Due to Bacon's popularity, the Governor conceded, thereby effectively losing control of the government as Bacon issued his 'Declaration of the People' that stated Berkeley was corrupt and protected Indians for selfish reasons. Armed conflict eventually erupted between forces loyal to the Governor and those supporting Bacon during which Bacon set Jamestown on fire, an action that ended his popularity. Five weeks later, Bacon died of a 'Bloodie Flux' that allowed the Governor to gain the upper hand, whereupon Berkeley ordered the hanging of the leaders of the rebellion along with several of its supporters.

The tale of the discovery of the hidden coins illustrates the deplorable condition of circulating coins in Virginia in the late seventeenth century:

About October last, a considerable Quantity of old English Money was found in the Ruins of a House where Col. Bridger formerly liv'd, in Isle of Wight County, of the Coins of Queen Elizabeth, King James the First, and King Charles the First. It was first discovered by a Negro that liv'd on the Plantation, who not knowing the Value of it, squander'd a good deal of it away; by which Means it soon came to the Knowledge of Persons who found Means to get possess'd of the greatest Part of it; which they converted to their own Uses, without acquainting the Proprietor of the Land thereof. In a little Time, the Money began to circulate plentifully about the Neighbourhood (sic), and now may be seen almost all over the Country; so that it's believ'd there was a large Sum of it...How this Money came to be lodg'd there, or who was the right Owner of it, no one living knows, but it's conjectur'd by some, that it was hid there for Security, it the Time of Bacon's Rebellion; and by others, that it was Public Money lodg'd in Col. Bridger's Hands,

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who was in an advanc'd Station of Life, and held several Offices. However, the Owner of the Land lays Claim to the Treasure; and we hear has exhibited Bills in chancery against several Persons, who have been known to be possessed of this sort of Money, in order to recover it. It's a Pity he had not discover'd the Nest before the Birds were flown...

SOURCE:

Virginia Gazette, April 6, 1739.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Robert (Bob) Vlack's long anticipated book on French colonial coins used in North America has been printed, and will be available by the end of August. The Table of Contents for this monumental effort, entitled *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas*, is provided below:

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The book is \$50 in US Dollars, with postage additional as follows:

Postage in the USA is \$5.00

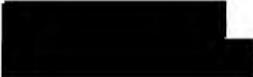
Postage to Canada is \$6.50

Postage to England or France is \$13.50

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After figuring out your cost with postage, make out your check to Colonial Coin Collectors Club and send it to:

Ray Williams



As most C4 members have heard by now, Rob Retz passed away on May 17, 2004 after a prolonged battle with cancer. He lived longer and with better quality of life than he or his doctors had expected, and retained his famous sense of humor to the very end. Rob beat the odds, surviving through the first John J. Ford, Jr. auction sale, where he saw the Fugio copper series set new records. And there he was a month later in Boston for his final C4 convention, at which he even added a piece to his collection.

Rob was one of the first C4 members, and a longtime Board member as well. Rob loved knowledge, and he took the time to actually learn about various colonial series. Rob eventually sold everything but his Connecticut and Fugio coppers, which became his main collecting interests. Eventually the Connecticut copper market heated up and it became increasingly difficult for Rob to add to his holdings. Not content with the prospect of his collection remaining stagnant, Rob made the choice to sell those pieces and use the proceeds to expand and enhance his Fugio collection.

It's the Fugio coppers with which Rob's name will long be associated, and he was preparing the definitive book on the series at the time of his death. Rob's book was complete enough that it could have been published two or three years ago, but always the perfectionist, he was never quite ready for it to be set in stone. The Ford collection was the last major grouping that Rob had not seen, so it's fitting that one of his final numismatic endeavors involved adding the Ford pieces to his census notes. The manuscript that Rob left behind will need only minor revisions and updating,

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which will be capably handled by his friends David Palmer and Fred Thawley; it will hopefully be published soon by C4.

Rob was also active in many other organizations – he was an original member of the Willamette Coin Club and a member of the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association as well as a bourse chairman for an amazing seven conventions of that club, winning the Best of Show award from PNNA in 1999 and the Goodwill Ambassador award earlier this year. He was the Honorary General Chairman for the American Numismatic Association's 2004 convention in Portland, and he received the ANA President's award there (as reported in the last C4 Newsletter). Rob had several articles published in both the Early American Coppers journal "Penny-Wise" and in "The Colonial Newsletter."

While coins were certainly important to Rob, he had many other interests as well. He received a Bachelor's degree in Russian, and did graduate work in Russian history. He worked as an auto mechanic and as a hobby rebuilt an MG Roadster which had the best license plate possible for him – FUGIO (a nice double meaning for the series he collected and as it translates literally as "I FLY" a good commentary on both car and driver!). His mechanical training meant he was always good with tools, and that led to a career as an independent distributor for MAC tools, which he did for over 20 years.

Wife Margaret and daughters Nicole and Angela, who all survive him, were always his life. Several coin clubs that Rob belonged to are joining forces to honor him in a very appropriate way. They are raising funds to rename the award for the best exhibit at an ANA convention using colonial coins, half cents or large cents as the "Rob Retz Memorial Award." Anyone interested in donating to this very worthwhile cause can contact C4 President Ray Williams for more information.



ROB RETZ



C4 AUCTION CONSIGNMENTS

Ray Williams reminds us: Well, the summer is coming to an end and McCawley and Grellman (M&G) have a great start on consignments for the C4 Auction this November – again to be admirably cataloged by Tom Rinaldo. Now's the time to look through your collection and see if there's any items that no longer have your interest, that could be consigned and generate money for your current interests. This will be our 10th Auction! As an Anniversary Sale, I hope it will be a little bigger and better than the rest (if that's possible).

I've listened to comments in the past about the catalogs coming out late. This has a lot to do with consignments being submitted late. I know the passion we have in assembling our collections, and we don't want to part with them until the very last minute, but if consignments are in by the end of August, then the catalogers will

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have time to properly do their work and get the catalog out in plenty of time (and continue to produce a quality catalog).

Why not look through your collection in the next week and see if there's anything you'd like to turn into cash.

Please call Chris McCawley [REDACTED], Bob Grellman [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] or Tom Rinaldo [REDACTED] to discuss what you
may have for this auction.

Following is a proposed amendment to Section 8.1 of the C4 bylaws. Should you have any comments regarding this proposal, please contact your regional Vice President or one of the national officers.

Section 8.1. Annual Meeting. The official Annual Meeting shall be held during and in conjunction with the annual convention of the Colonial Coin Collector's Club, Inc. and at such hour and such place as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Notice of the date, time and place of every annual meeting of the Club shall be published in the C4 Newsletter at least thirty (30) days before the date of such meeting. The notice of the Annual Meeting shall include an agenda of matters to be considered.

FOUND: Stack's Hains Sale Catalog - priced with notations. Also with the catalog is a Yellow Legal pad with all pages filled with notes and information. Lost at the 2003 C4 Convention near the C4 Table. Contact Ray Williams.

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Based on the results of the nomination/election process for C4 officers, the following new officers will be installed at the ANA Convention in Pittsburgh:

Vice President:	David L. Palmer
Treasurer:	Dr. Roger Moore
Vice President, Region 2:	Dr. David Menchell
Vice President, Region 5:	Timothy J. Martin, Esq.

Addresses and contact data for these individuals are provided in the list of officers at the beginning of this Newsletter.



ROGER SIBONI'S BEACH COIN PARTY

(Roger Moore)

July 18th 2004 was the big day for colonial coins in New Jersey. East Coast colonial enthusiasts joined together at the beautiful Mantoloking, NJ, home of Roger Siboni to enjoy his wife's excellent hosting, as well as what I think we would all like to see as a yearly event celebrating the interest we have in colonial coins and medals. The weather didn't oblige us for outdoor fun and games but since the purpose of the bash was to exchange information about coins, no one even noticed that it rained most of the day. In attendance (in the order of signing in on the official sign in sheet) were: Roger Moore, Clem Schettino, Donald Scarinci, Bill Anton III, John Agree, Bill Anton Jr., Michael Wierzba, Frank McGrath, Ray Williams Vicken Yegparian, Bijan Anvar, Roger Siboni, Robert Martin, Dave Wnuck, John Lorenzo, David Menchell, and Tom Rinaldo, as well as assorted wives, girl friends, and children. The get together started out at about 2 pm with Bill Anton Jr. providing an informative update on many NJs. Discussed were the 64-t (striations are due to die rust not planchet defects), 35-J and 35-W (which came first – probably 35-J but 35-Ws seem to be in better shape), 22-P (a very interesting

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observation about this coin but I do not want to steal Bill's thunder since it should be written up), 33-U (look at the shield chip), 69-w (hand cut lettering as was 79-ee), 48-X (last use of the 48 die), and much more. Bill did share a number of his coins with us including what he has called a 29 1/2-L which has not been seen before by any in the group!! He provided the story behind his getting this coin, which was part of a Coin Gallery group lot. The story was very entertaining. He also showed an 84-kk and another coin, that looks very similar in many respects to modern forgeries that have been appearing, which he called an 86-jj. A lot of study of each of these coins is in order and everyone was appreciative to have been given a glance at them.

The next two hours were spent with each person sharing objects, coins, books, and stories about colonial coins. I will say that Roger S. blew everyone else out of the water with some of his coins, including the NE token, Pine tree shilling, Nimbus Saint Patrick farthing and an additional grouping of colonial coins and medals which had people in the know salivating. Clem had a huge number of coins of all sorts. He is definitely becoming a renaissance man of colonial coins (somehow renaissance and colonial don't seem to fit – oh well). John L. had a beautiful Saint Patrick farthing, a very impressive New Jersey 48-X, and two rare Blacksmiths. John A. shared with us some extensive cataloging he has been doing on a wide series of colonial coins which will eventually help in establishing true rarity ratings. Ray brought his metal detector and showed us a huge number of items he has found. With a metal detector, I have learned, you will never have to shop for gifts for your spouse again!! Bob M. brought a counterfeit shilling with a "story" that he had traced back to one of the first plated colonial coin sales, and which he was able to finally establish as a Betts product. Everyone brought something but I have not yet transcribed the tape I made of the gathering. I am sorry for leaving anyone out but this is all from memory and I was jumping up to go to the viewing room for long periods of time, thereby missing some presentations.

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By about 6 pm, after four intense hours of discussion, we were all ready for a few drinks and food. A wonderful dinner of shrimp, chicken, beef patties, and hot dogs was cooked by caterers, and for dessert there was some incredible dark chocolate dipped key lime pies and baklava. Though dinner was a time to stuff our faces, this did not stop the discussions, dealings, and other coin related matters during the entire meal. After the meal Bill Anton Jr. auctioned off one of the 15 numbered copies of Oschner's catalog that he had hard bound. After an intimidating exchange of bids between David M. and Roger S., Roger won the catalog for \$200. Next came one of the 51st signed and numbered extra large color photographs Bill had made of his Maris Plate-III. I am happy to say that I won it for \$150 and interestingly, I have a frame all ready that fits it perfectly!! All proceeds from these sales were donated to C-4 by Bill Anton Jr. *Thank you Bill!!*

I think we all left Roger's home filled, not only with food, but with new knowledge, new coins, and an increased enthusiasm to continue the work of discovering new information about these coins we love.



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Candid shots of the “picnic.”



C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane, Librarian)

Thank You to all first time donors and also those who continue to donate items to the C4 library. The collection is growing and we have many books which are out of print and valuable. They are available for loan to all C4 members. Take a look at the C4 website for the most current listing. Below is a list of new donations since the last newsletter. Thank You to all. Your contributions are appreciated by all C4 members.

Stacks – Hardbound Editions of the John J. Ford Jr.
Collection of Coins, Medals and Currency:
Part II - (Washington coins, medals and tokens;
Early American coins and tokens), 11 May 2004
Part III – (Colonial currency, Fractional
currency), 11 – 12 May 2004
Part IV – (Hard times tokens, Encased postage
stamps), 23 June 2004

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Stacks in association with George F. Kolbe –

John J. Ford Jr. Collection – Reference Library

Part I, 1 June 2004

George Fuld - Additional copies of; Early Washington Medals,
American Journal of Numismatics #14, The American
Numismatic Society, New York City, NY, 2002

Ed Sarafian - The Fugio Coppers – A Simple Method for
Identifying Die Varieties With Rarity Listing And
Price Guide, by Alan Kessler, Newtonville, MA 1976

Buell Ish - The Economic Rise of Early America by Gary Walten
& James Shepard, Cambridge, MA 1979

ANS - CNL #126 August-December 2004, Lord Baltimore
Coinage and Daily Exchange, New Die Combination of
Counterfeit Halfpence Discovered

The library is now taking donations of EAC's Penny Wise
Newsletter. If you have any original copies you wish to donate,
please write or e mail me so that we can avoid having duplicates.

*Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated.
Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the
library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now
are those who will be buying your coins later. Thank You, my
e-mail is Leo.J.Shane@honeywell.com or write to me at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]*



Classified Ads

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy size
1 page	\$50	\$80	\$105	\$130	4-1/2" x 7-1/2"
1/2 page	30	55	75	\$95	4-1/2" x 3-3/4"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 13 lines of text.



Serious collector wishes to buy a Wood's Hibernia "star before date" halfpenny – Breen #149. Condition is secondary if the star & date are clear. Also interested in buying silver Wood's Hibernia halfpence, and other unusual Wood's material.

Syd Martin,

[REDACTED] or email to sfmartin5@comcast.net.



Barry Tayman and I, under a grant from the ANS, are working on a monograph on Canadian Blacksmith tokens. We are seeking information from collectors, especially about the rarer pieces. I can be contacted at my home address or through my web site.

George Fuld, Sc.D.





FOR SALE: CD of high-resolution digital images of my reference collection of Contemporary Counterfeit British & Irish 1/2d & 1/4d, approximately 700 different specimens. Organized by Major Type, Date and Families where appropriate, with additional material on Major Errors and Die Breaks...\$45 post paid.
Registered buyers, if you'd like, will be added to a distribution list that will receive updates by email with images attached of new specimens of major varieties and Families as they are identified.
For more information, see
http://www.geocities.com/copperclen/Counterfeits_page3.html

Clem Schettino, [REDACTED]
copperclem@comcast.net

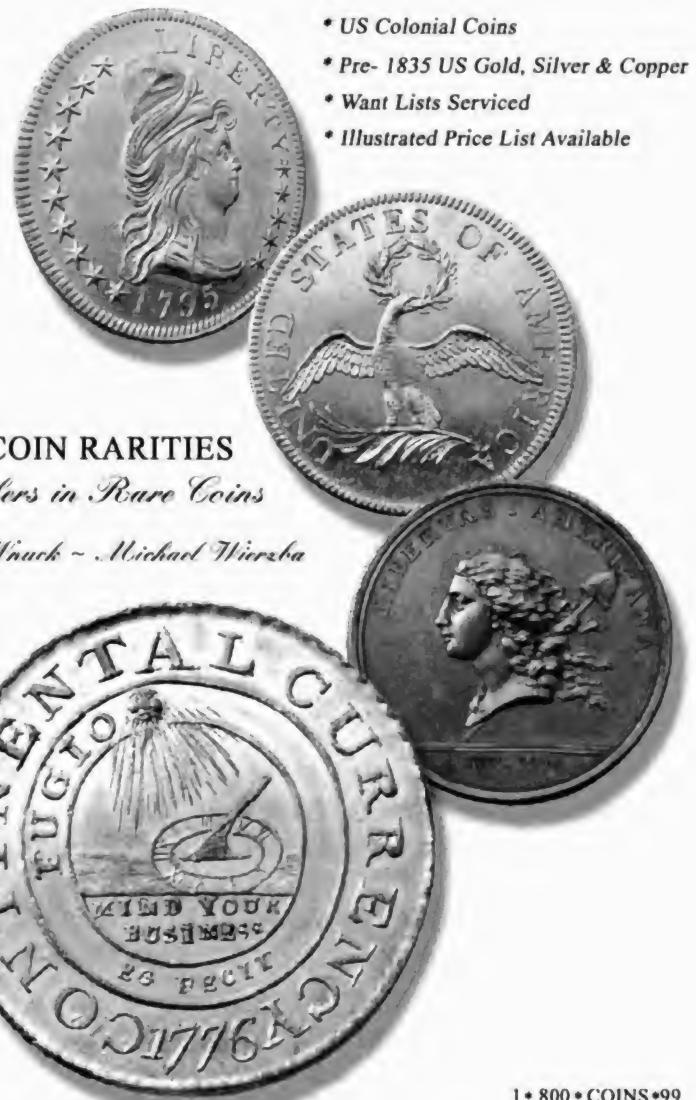
ANNUAL C4 CONVENTION

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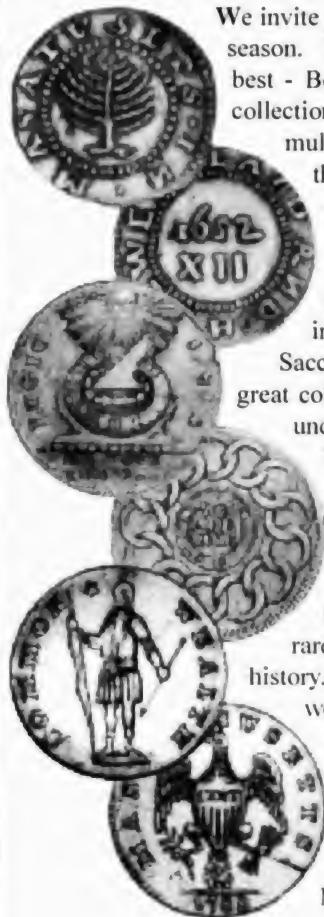
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